

REMARKS

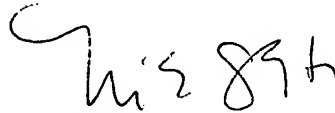
Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-16 have been amended to either clarify the invention or are of a clerical, typographical or grammatical nature. New Claims 17 and 18 have been added. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments or the new claims.

It is believed that this Preliminary Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Application is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated above.

Respectfully submitted,

TOBIN CARBERRY O'MALLEY RILEY SELINGER, P.C.



Dated: May 22, 2006 Nicole E. Coppes-Gathy
Reg. No. 46,640

NEC:ska

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 22, 2006.

Signed


Sarah K. Ackley